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# Veterinary Cannabis Counselor

## Syllabus

### Course Description

This course provides 12 weeks of self-paced learning, facilitated discussion, forum and educational resources, and small-group mentorship to veterinary technician (credentialed and non-credentialed) seeking certification as a Veterinary Cannabis Counselor (VCC). After completion of the self-paced learning and live webinar classroom discussion portion of this course, students will solidify learned principles through a written examination, independently completed case studies, and a case presentation

The goal of this course is to provide both credentialed and non-credentialed technicians with education about the safe and scientific utilization of cannabis in veterinary medicine.

### Method of Instruction

This course is structured using a Flipped Classroom model of instruction. Learn more about what this means [here](#).

New subject material is presented in a self-paced learning format with recorded lectures, reading assignments and projects. Each of the six modules consists of pre-class work and a facilitated live discussion via webinar. Students will review course material in preparation for live classroom discussions via webinar.

Live classroom webinars occur via Zoom every 2 weeks during the course to allow students time to work through assignments and be prepared to participate in the discussion. Attendance at all six (6) live classroom webinars is required.

A VCC graduate provides mentorship to groups of 5-6 currently enrolled students throughout the course.

An online discussion forum is also available for students to interact with the greater VCC community throughout the length of the course.

After completion of the classroom portion of the curriculum, independently conducted case studies allows compilation of learned material and the development of practitioner skills. Students will also present one of their case studies in a Grand Rounds session to practice presentation, public speaking, and webinar-facilitated teaching skills.

### Pre-requisites

1. Age: Applicants must be 21+ years at the start of class
2. Education & Experience: Either of the following
  - a. Credentialed veterinary technician with 2 years clinical experience
  - b. Non-credentialed veterinary technician with 5 years clinical experience
3. Clinical Recommendation: **two** signed letters of recommendation from veterinarians





## Course Objectives

Objective 1: Introduce the endocannabinoid system at a clinically-applicable level

Objective 2: Discuss historical and current legal issues concerning cannabis and the veterinary community

Objective 3: Introduce the concept of Harm Reduction Education (HRE) and its important implications in cannabis medicine

Objective 4: Develop a functional understanding of the endogenous and exogenous cannabinoids on diverse body systems

Objective 5: Introduce principles of product evaluation for safety and efficacy

Objective 6: Discuss the development of safe administration guidelines and monitoring schedules

Objective 7: Discuss and develop medical record templates and business plans applicable to veterinary cannabis applications

## Curriculum Outline

Module 1 – Endocannabinoid System (ECS) & *Cannabis* Plant Biology

Module 2 – Legal Topics & Veterinary Ethics

Module 3 – Harm Reduction Education & Evaluating a Product

Module 4 – Beyond the Basics: Molecular Complexity

Module 5 – Administration Plans & Monitoring

Module 6 – Medical Record-keeping & Business Topics

## Graduation Requirements

Students will earn a Veterinary Cannabis Counselor (VCC) certification after successfully completing the following:

1. Attend six 2-hour live webinar sessions (attendance at every webinar is required), webinars occur every 2 weeks
2. Participate in forum discussions throughout course
3. Successfully pass a Written Evaluation (due within 30 days of completing webinars)
4. Complete six (6) Case Studies (due within 4 months of completing webinars)
5. Present one (1) Case Study at a Grand Rounds session (due within 6 months of completing webinars)

## Textbook(s) & Required Tools or Supplies

Required textbooks: None.

- Relevant articles and/or online resources will be made available to students.

Supplies and/or tools:

- Internet-connect computer or smartphone



### **Continuing Education (CE) & Renewal Requirements**

VCC certifications are valid for **two** years after the date of graduation. **Eight** hours of continuing education (CE) are required for renewal.

This CE requirement may be met by any of the following:

1. Veterinary, CE-approved, cannabis-specific lecture *i.e.* RACE approved CE, state board approved CE
2. Education course offered by Veterinary Cannabis or one of our global partners
3. Human-based cannabis education course/lecture with a clinical/medical focus (*approved on a case-by-case basis*).
4. Documented cannabis-focused externship / internship hours
5. Facilitate mentorship opportunities for current and recently-graduated VCCounselor and VCGuide students
  - Host a Veterinary Cannabis Grand Rounds session for VCCounselor student case presentations
  - Documents cannabis-focused mentorship